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SOURCE Chin-pu Jih-pao.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ISSUES REGULATIONS ON HIGHER SCHOOLS

Peiping, 17 August (Hsin-hua) -- On 14 August 1950, the Ministry of Education, Central People's Government of China, promulgated three important regulations governing the institutions of higher learning. The regulations, approved by the Government Administration Council, include the "Provisional Regulations Governing Higher Educational Institutions," the "Provisional Regulations Governing Colleges," and the "Provisional Regulations Governing the Control of Privately Operated Higher Educational Institutions." Summaries of the regulations follow:

Provisional Regulations Governing Higher Educational Institutions

The regulations provide that the higher educational institutions in China shall use the educational method which unites theories with realities, as stipulated in Chapter 5 of the Common Program, and which trains students to attain a higher cultural level, to acquire modern science and technical knowledge, and to develop reconstruction specialists who will devote all their efforts toward serving the people.

Higher educational institutions, the regulations state, shall include universities and professional schools. They may also include colleges to meet the urgency of national reconstruction. The founding of, or closing of, a university or a professional school shall be proposed by the Ministry of Education to the Government Administration Council. The council shall make the ultimate decision. The Ministry of Education shall decide whether to organize or change various educational departments in each university or professional school.

The period of study in a university or professional school shall be 3 to 5 years depending on the course of study. The curriculum in each department of a university or professional school shall adhere to the educational method which unites theories with realities, and shall be based on the urgency of national reconstruction. The plan and outline of teaching each course of study shall be submitted for record to the Ministry of Education.

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50X1-HUM

As for faculty organization, the regulations stipulate that the basic unit in instruction shall be the research and guidance section, and it shall be composed of all the faculty members teaching the same course or several related courses. The responsibilities of the research and guidance section shall be to direct all affiliated faculty members in deciding on the plan and outline of a course of study; to direct and investigate the teaching and research activities of the section; and to direct and organize the study, experiments, and research program for the students taught by each section's faculty members.

As for social organizations, the regulations provide that labor unions, student unions, etc., in each university or professional school, shall endeavor to unite all workers, staff employees, and students helping them to study politics, culture, and their professions, and to foster their well-being. A university or professional school may also have scholastic units to encourage the advancement and popularization of science and culture.

Provisional Regulations Governing Colleges

The regulations stipulate that the purpose of each college is to utilize the educational method which unites theories with realities, and to train technical personnel who will devote all their efforts toward the construction of the New Democracy.

The regulations also provide that the establishment of, or closing of, a college shall be decided by the Ministry of Education, or shall be decided after consultation with other ministries of the Central People's government.

The period of study in a college shall be 2 or 3 years. Each college may have several departments specializing in different courses of study. The curriculum in each department of a college shall adhere to the educational method which unites theories with realities, and shall be based on the urgency of national reconstruction. The plan and outline of teaching for each course of study shall be submitted for record to the Ministry of Education. Other regulations on faculty organization, social organizations, etc., are similar to those provided in the Provisional Regulations Governing Higher Educational Institutions.

Provisional Regulations Governing the Control of Privately Operated Higher Educational Institutions

The objective of the regulations is to increase the government leadership of private higher institutions and to foster and reform them to fulfill the needs of national reconstruction. The regulations stipulate that the aim, duty, academic system, curriculums, teaching, and administrative organizations of a privately operated higher institution (a university, professional school, or college) shall conform to the provisions set forth in the Provisional Regulations Governing Higher Educational Institutions and the Provisional Regulations Governing Colleges.

The regulations provide that any privately operated higher institution which is operating with excellent results, but confronting financial difficulties, may receive a subsidy from the Ministry of Education after satisfactory investigation by the Department of Education or Department of Culture and Education of the relevant major administrative region.

The regulations stipulate that the administrative, financial, and property ownership rights of a privately operated higher institution shall be vested in Chinese nationals; and that all privately operated higher institutions shall be required to register or reregister.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The regulations also provide that a privately operated higher institution shall not make religious studies a compulsory course in its curriculum, and shall not compel students to participate in religious services and activities. The regulations provide that the assets of any private higher institution shall be used exclusively for the operation of the institution, and that the property rights of a private higher institution are nontransferable except after the approval of the Ministry of Education.

The regulations also stipulate that if a private higher institution plans to close down or change its organization, the board of directors of the said school shall report such a plan, 5 months before the end of the current semester, to the Ministry of Education for approval. Such proposals shall be first submitted to the Department of Education of the relevant major administrative region.

If the Department of Education finds a private higher institution managed improperly in its administration or violating governmental laws and regulations, it may order, after the approval of the Ministry of Education, the reorganization of the board of directors, the replacement of its president, the reorganization of the institution, or the closing down of the said institution.

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- 3 -

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